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VAFB, Calif., April 17 (UPI) -- The Air Force today launched a satellite toward polar orbit, but refused to say whether it was a Discoverer of "Sky Spy" vehicle in line with a new policy severely restricting information on military space shots.

The Air Force would not even give the time of the launching.

The brief prepared statement said only:

"A satellite employing a Thor Agena B booster combination was launched today by the Air Force from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif."

Asked whether the satellite was in orbit, the Air Force information officer referred to the directive released last Tuesday making information classified on all military satellites.

The same directive eliminated names for satellite programs, such as the Discoverer and Samos-Midas Sky Spy vehicles launched from here previously.

NRO review(s) completed.

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